

From: Karol Jamison
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/24/02 2:48pm
Subject: Accept the Settlement!

January 23, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530-0001

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

I am writing today to urge you and the Department of Justice to accept the Microsoft antitrust settlement, which I have never believed to be in the consumer's best interest to begin with. My personal experience with computers has only been possible because of Microsoft's and other's work to integrate technology into a single package. If I had had to assemble my first computer from components and drivers I would still be in the dark ages. I have always thought that this lawsuit stemmed more from vindictiveness or jealousy than real concern for what's best for the consumer. I won't even mention the devastating effects on the technology industry or the economy as a whole. (Although I agree with the many people that blame this lawsuit for starting the recession)

Microsoft has agreed to a wide range of concessions in order to put the issue behind them. The agreement is fair; the only thing left is for the government to accept its own settlement.

During the negotiations, Microsoft agreed to a wide range of restrictions. They agreed to allow computer makers the flexibility to install and promote any software that they see fit. They also agreed not to enter into any agreement obligating any third party to distribute or promote any Windows technology exclusively or in a fixed percentage. Microsoft also agreed to terms that extended well beyond the problems that actually at issue in the suit.

Microsoft has given up a lot in order to put the issue beyond them. They have made an agreement and are ready to move on. All that is needed is for the government to accept their own agreement. Please accept the Microsoft antitrust settlement.

Sincerely,

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